

**Subject:** Fwd: Re: Melrose BID People Street Plaza  
**From:** Donald Duckworth  
**Date:** 08/05/2016 09:34 PM  
**To:** Kim Sudhalter

FYI. This is coming together.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Scott Epstein" <[sepstein@midcitywest.org](mailto:sepstein@midcitywest.org)>  
Date: Jul 23, 2016 7:35 PM  
Subject: Re: Melrose BID People Street Plaza  
To: "Pierson Blaetz" <[pierson@greenwayarts.org](mailto:pierson@greenwayarts.org)>  
Cc: "Denis Weintraub" <[drdenisweintraub@yahoo.com](mailto:drdenisweintraub@yahoo.com)>, "Donald Duckworth" <[duckworth.donald@gmail.com](mailto:duckworth.donald@gmail.com)>

Hi, all.

I'm thrilled that everyone is excited about the idea!

Don, I think the person you're going to want to reach out to at LADOT regarding the People Street program is Brian Oh. His email is [brian.oh@lacity.org](mailto:brian.oh@lacity.org).

Getting residents on the adjacent block on board will be key. I have an idea on the community engagement front. Mid City West will most likely be bringing back Park(ing) Day on September 16th, which of course the BID was a partner on last year with your terrific parklet in front of Tomato Pie. Perhaps this year instead of doing a parking space, the BID could do a pop-up version of the plaza to give the community a feeling for what it would be like. In terms of location, I like Stanley on the north side of Melrose. Maison Richard already has sidewalk tables on Stanley and there's that great street art on the opposite wall.

Best,

Scott

On Sat, Jul 23, 2016 at 2:13 PM, Pierson Blaetz <[pierson@greenwayarts.org](mailto:pierson@greenwayarts.org)> wrote:

Glad that everyone is excited and ready to push forward. I'm in and out of town thru mid-august. Excited about developing our plan forward.

Pierson

On Saturday, July 23, 2016, Denis Weintraub <[drdenisweintraub@yahoo.com](mailto:drdenisweintraub@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Fabulous idea; let's plan quickly & go 4 it.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 23, 2016, at 10:27 AM, Donald Duckworth <[duckworth.donald@gmail.com](mailto:duckworth.donald@gmail.com)> wrote:

I think you might be on to something, Scott. I'll reach out to the People Streets Program for some information. As we go into BID renewal, a visible effort like you suggest together with a strong Mid City West partnership might be well timed. I've copied Deny Weintraub whose support would be critical.

On Fri, Jul 22, 2016 at 11:01 AM, Scott Epstein <[sepstein@midcitywest.org](mailto:sepstein@midcitywest.org)> wrote:

Hi, Don.

Hope all is well.

Pierson and I met for lunch on Sunday and one of the topics we discussed was the BID's conceptual plan for streetscape improvements.

One of the items I was most excited about in the conceptual plan was the idea of creating a plaza by

closing off a side street from Melrose Avenue to the alley. As I'm sure you know, the city's People Street program works with BIDs and other groups to create plazas like this. And one of the plazas that has already been implemented - Bradley Street in Pacoima - has this exact arrangement (closing off a small section of side street from the commercial corner to the real alley). So we know it can be done successfully!

Wondering if the BID might want to submit an application when the city's new window opens (TBD)? I think it could be a wonderful way to add open space for the community and would be a great placemaking project for Melrose. I suspect that Mid City West would be very supportive.

Best,

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Scott Epstein  
Board Chairman  
Mid City West Community Council

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Pierson

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Scott Epstein  
Board Chairman  
Mid City West Community Council